ÆSOP

Eng. Poetry vol 1st

AT

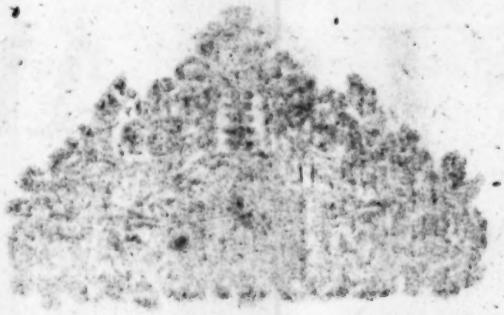
UTRECHT.

Upon ye French King und Ys characters of Ys wolf & Ys Hawk.

LONDON,

Printed in the Year 1712. and Sold by the Booksellers. Price 1 d.

11. March. 17 11/12



FABLE I.

THE LIONESS AND WOLF.

A Stately Lioneſs with prudent Skill,
Govern'd the Foreſts of a fruitful Iſle,
And with ſuch Care her Subjects Rights maintain'd,
That Peace and Plenty o're the Iſland reign'd,

And each Inhabitant her Goodneſs ſhar'd,
Liv'd at their Eaſe and no Diſturbance fear'd.

Th' adjacent Plains a rav'nous Wolf poſſeſt,
Who envy'd much his Neighbour's Happineſs;
Is not content to keep within his Bounds,
But ſtrives t' encroach upon his Neighbours Grounds:
As far as he invades he Havock makes,
Burns all their Dens and their Proviſion takes:
When this baſe Deed had reach'd the Ruler's Ear,
She hies her forth, and ſtops his full Career;
She meets the Wolf, they in cloſe Combat join,
He gladly now wou'd all he'd got reſign;
But ſhe purſues her Conqueſt o're the Plains,
And half his Kingdom from him juſtly gains;
He poorly ſues that ſhe wou'd ſpare the reſt,
And vows her Subjects he'll no more moleſt.

To him then anſwer'd thus the Lioneſs,
I'll Pity take, and will my Vengeance ceaſe:
But know the Lands I've gain'd I'll not reſign,
I them will to my own Dominions join;
Leaſt if reſtor'd, you ſhou'd a Rebel grow;
I have you under, and I'll keep you ſo.

The Moral.

Thus haughty Princes whoſe aſpiring Minds
To Univerſal Monarchy inclines,
Who with their own Dominions not content,
Reſolve to lengthen out their vaſt Extent;
In the Attempt do often meet Diſgrace,
And by enlarging do their own decreaſe:
They by Ambition do themſelves undo,
By climbing higher they are brought more low
And leaſt they ſhou'd rebel, 'tis beſt to keep
them ſo.

Fable

FABLE II.

THE EAGLE AND HAWK.

A *Hawk* and *Eagle* by ſtrong Friendſhip join'd,
A Contract made to ſpare each others Kind;
The *Hawk* had Liberty to range the Air,
Make all his Prey ſo he the Eagle ſpare.

The

The *Eagle* too might make each Bird her Prey,
If ſhe permit the Hawk to fly away.
They had not liv'd thus long in friendly Love
Before the treach'rous *Hawk* did faithleſs prove;
She thought that ſhe too long had kept her Vows,
And to deſtroy the *Eagles* Neſt ſhe goes;
With haſte ſhe flies; as ſoon as ſhe came there
Devour'd the Eggs in which young *Eagles* were:
Before ſhe did compleat this barb'rous Act,
The *Eagle* came and caught her in the Fact;
Which when the *Hawk* perceiv'd ſhe flew away,
Leaſt ſhe ſhou'd fall (as ſhe deſerv'd) her Prey.
The *Eagle* griev'd, and was reſolv'd that ſhe
For th' Wrong ſhe had ſuffer'd wou'd revenged be,
Without delay to the *Hawk*'s Neſt ſhe flies,
And all her young ones in her ſight deſtroys.

The Moral.

So with the faithless Monarch oft it fares,
Who ne're regards the solemn Oaths he swears;
But when he sees an Opportunity,
A Prince will undermine by Treachery;
Does often bring Revenge upon his Head,
And when it is too late, repent the Deed.
Him we have reason always to distrust,
For he who'll once will always prove unjust.

FINIS.